

COLUMBIA RIVER REGIONAL FORUM

TECHNICAL MANAGEMENT TEAM

July 26, 2004

FACILITATOR'S SUMMARY NOTES ON FUTURE ACTIONS

Facilitator: Donna Silverberg

The following notes are a summary of issues that are intended to point out future actions or issues that may need further discussion at upcoming meetings. These notes are not intended to be the "record" of the meeting, only a reminder for TMT members.

Dworshak Operations:

A TMT conference call was held on Friday, July 23, to discuss a request from the salmon managers to increase Dworshak flows to 14 kcfs to get ahead of forecasted high temperatures by using Dworshak to reduce the tailwater temperature at Lower Granite. Cool water was the primary objective of the requested emergency operation. At the COE's suggestion, Paul Wagner, NOAA, checked with the USFWS hatchery downstream of Dworshak to discuss the possibility of decreasing Dworshak releases to 43° water, rather than increasing flows to meet cooler water objectives. TMT members agreed that saving water in the reservoir would be beneficial for everyone. The hatchery responded that cooler water was not acceptable over the weekend due to last minute scheduling issues at the hatchery, but that it would be acceptable the following (this) week.

Ron Boyce, Oregon, reported on an FPAC call today (July 26), at which the salmon managers discussed Dworshak releases and current conditions. Lower Granite tailwater temperatures have moderated and air temperatures are expected to do the same, so the salmon managers requested that Dworshak discharges be decreased from the current 13.7 kcfs to 11.2-11.5 kcfs as soon as possible, and to decrease Dworshak releases to 43° water. The USFWS hatchery, as noted above, agreed to this lower temperature operation for this week and requested that the COE notify them if/when this change will occur.

ACTION: TMT members agreed to the salmon managers' requested operation. The COE will reduce outflows at Dworshak immediately. The temperature decrease will take about 8 hours. The COE will coordinate with the hatchery regarding the decreased temperature, and Cindy Henriksen will send an email to TMT members after the coordination, notifying them if there will be a temperature change or not after this week. The salmon managers will continue to monitor conditions.

It was noted that the operation change on Friday was indeed beneficial for the fish, and NOAA and other salmon managers expressed appreciation to the action agencies for a timely response to the request. Ron Boyce, Oregon, noted that McNary temperatures have been quite high recently and suggested that this project also continue to be closely monitored.

Next Meeting, Wednesday, August 4th, 9am-noon:

Agenda Items:

- Fall Fisheries, Fish Run Finals – WDFW
- Sturgeon Update – USFWS
- Dworshak Temperatures, Operations Update
- Tribal Summer Fishery Review – CRITFC
- Libby/Hungry Horse Operations Update
- Status of Spill
- System Operations Status

**Participants on today's conference call:* Jim Adams, Dave Benner, Scott Bettin, Ron Boyce, Scott Boyd, Robin Harkless, Cindy Henriksen, Cathy Hlebechuk, Russ Kiefer, Kyle Martin, Donna Silverberg, Dave Statler, Paul Wagner, John Wellschlager